

## **NOAA - National Weather Service**

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## NWS Forecasters Continue Support to Charities and Participate in Disney Royal Family 5K

Lead Forecaster, Jennifer McNatt, and Journey Forecaster, Jennifer Colson, participated in the Disney Beauty and the Beast Royal Family 5K on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011, benefiting The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, an organization dedicated to the fight against blood cancers. Over 4,500 people ran in the race, with part of the course traveling through the EPCOT park. The fun run was just that, a great time with Disney Characters, volunteers, and supporting family and friends of the runners positioned all along the course. The Walt Disney World Complex is also recognized as a NWS <u>StormReady</u> commercial site, but thankfully the weather was wonderful for the weekend of events.



Jennifer Colson and Jennifer McNatt, Pre-race



Jennifer Colson with the Finisher 'Medal'

This run continues the philanthropic spirit of the entire team at the NWS Tampa Bay Area (TBW) Weather Forecast Office. Our recent Combined Federal Campaign, the annual fund-raising drive by federal employees in the workplace that benefits over 2,500 charities across the nation, saw over \$19,000 raised by 22 TBW staff members. Since 2006, we have also participated in the Relay for Life of SouthShore, benefiting the American Cancer Society and involving groups walking or running around the track for an 18 hour period. This year's event will be held at East Bay High School on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011.